



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD

Seventh District

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Geni Cavitt
Phone: 619-236-6677
E-mail: gcavitt@sandiego.gov

COUNCILMEMBER EMERALD GETS FIX FOR LAKE MURRAY SINKHOLE

Temporary Fix In, Permanent Solution Expected By Memorial Day

San Diego City Councilmember Marti Emerald is pleased to announce the large sinkhole at Lake Murray has been repaired, albeit temporarily. "We need a permanent, long-term solution that will benefit generations of taxpayers," stated Emerald. "No more quick and dirty fixes that fail."

Last week, Councilmember Emerald toured the damage done by the heavy rains in January. Accompanied by the City of San Diego Lakes Supervisor Nelson Manville, Emerald learned this area was prone to flooding. The heavy rains undermined the ground beneath the pedestrian path at San Carlos Bay in Lake Murray which, in turn, caused this major sinkhole. Emerald also learned this part of the path was originally designed as an Arizona Crossing, which is essentially a large dip in the road over which flood waters flow during extreme rain events. The large, corrugated metal pipes used to funnel water under the path had rusted, which allowed extensive erosion, and washed out the foundation, taking part of the pathway with it. "This was an extremely dangerous situation. Thankfully, no one was hurt," said Emerald.

After surveying the extent of the erosion, Emerald requested a plan for both a temporary repair and, more importantly, a permanent solution.

The temporary repairs to restore use of the pedestrian path have been completed by Water Department crews and include replacement of the foundation, a slight change in the direction of the pathway, and installation of new asphalt. It is once again safe to walk on this section of the path.

Councilmember Emerald requests the patience and understanding of the many San Diegans who use this pathway for recreation. "Lake Murray is one of San Diego's most popular spots to run, walk, in-line skate, or to just enjoy the view," she said. The permanent solution will include new footings and foundation, concrete culverts and the rebuilding of the path. It is estimated that the work will take up to three months to complete, following review, concrete fabrication, installation, and road work.

"We all look forward to restoration of full recreational use of Lake Murray and the addition to improvements which will last for many years," Councilmember Emerald concluded.

Photos of the damage and work done so far will be available on Councilmember Emerald's Website: www.sandiego.gov/citycouncil/cd7.